

list, bringing Dr. Stejneger's list, published in 1887 (77 species), down to date, with introductory comment, the number of species now recorded being 99.—J. A. A.

Barrett Hamilton on the Position of the Legs of Birds during Flight.—

In a paper¹ of about a dozen pages the author briefly summarizes what had been previously published on the subject and adds his own observations and some others previously unpublished. The paper closes with a list of the species observed, arranged in the two categories: 'Legs carried pointing backward,' and 'Legs carried bent forward.' The latter consists almost wholly of passerine birds, while the former includes birds of all the other orders. The legs of birds, it is noted, often afford great and constant assistance in flight. "It is almost as if, to some birds, the legs are nearly more important as organs of flight than of progression on land."—J. A. A.

Dubois's 'Synopsis Avium.'—Since our last notice of this important work (*Auk*, XIX, Oct., 1902, p. 409) two additional parts (XI and XII) have come to hand, carrying the subject into the Herodiones. Part XI includes the Columbæ, Heteroclitæ, Crypturi, Gallinæ, and part of the Accipitres; Part XII completes the Accipitres and Striges, and includes a large part of the Herodiones.—J. A. A.

North's Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds.—A second edition of Mr. Alfred J. North's *Nests and Eggs of Australian and Tasmanian Birds*² is being issued in parts, of which Part I appeared in June, 1901, Part II in April, 1902, and Part III in April, 1903. The size is full quarto, and it is tastefully printed on heavy paper, with colored plates and many figures of nests, heads, and full-length figures of the birds in the text. Part I contains the Corvidæ, and part of the Paradiseidæ, which occupy the greater portion of Part II. Then follow the Campophagidæ, completed in Part II, and the great family Muscicapidæ runs through Part III. Descriptions are first given of the birds, with a few bibliographical references, and a statement of the range. Then follows the biographical matter,

¹ On the Position occupied by the Legs of Birds during Flight. By G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton. *The Zoölogist*, April, 1903, pp. 139-149. Also separate, repaged.

² *Nests and Eggs of Birds found Breeding in Australia and Tasmania.* By Alfred J. North, C. M. Z. S., Ornithologist, Australian Museum. (Second edition of Catalogue No. XII, entirely rewritten, with additions.) Printed by order of the Trustees of the Australian Museum; R. Ethridge, Jr., J. P., Curator (= Australian Museum, Sydney. Special Catalogue, No. I.) Part I, pp. 1-36, pl. A1, B1, June 11, 1901; Part II, pp. 37-120, pl. B2, B3, B4, April 25, 1902; Part III, pp. 121-201, pl. A2, A3, A4, April 27, 1903.

often quite extended, dealing with the general habits of the species as well as its nest and eggs. Naturally much space is given to the history of the Bower-birds, with illustrations of their bowers as well as of their nests and eggs. The work is admirable in design, and Mr. North's well-known attainments as an authority on the Australian ornithology is a guaranty of thoroughness in the execution of this great undertaking. — J. A. A.

Madarázs's Birds of Hungary.¹ — This forms a quarto volume of about 700 pages, illustrated with nine plates, most of them colored, and 170 text figures, mostly of heads and structural details. It is published, unfortunately for English readers, in the Hungarian language, but there is a summary of the work in German, forming nearly one third of the volume. This is a systematic, annotated list of the 364 species authentically recorded as found in Hungary, with a statement of their manner of occurrence and distribution, with references to the main text where they are fully described, with synonymy and other technical details. The work is by a master, and must prove of great convenience and importance to students of the Hungarian ornithology. It is published by the National Museum at Budapest, and is in every way a most creditable example of book-making. It originally appeared in fifteen parts, issued at irregular intervals from October, 1899, to April, 1903. — J. A. A.

Seth-Smith's Handbook of Parrakeets. — Parts I-V of this attractive work² have appeared during the last year. It relates especially, as the title indicates, to such species as are kept in captivity, and these are very numerous. The external characters of the species are given briefly, with some account of their distribution and habits, but more special reference is made to their habits, hardiness, etc., in captivity, and their proper food and treatment under such artificial conditions. In some cases quite extended accounts are given of their habits in their native wilds. Some five pages are given to the history of our "Carolina Conure," as here called, which, in view of its approaching extermination has a sad interest. The 17 colored plates thus far issued give very satisfactory figures

¹A Magyar Nemzeti Múzeum Kiadványa. Magyarország Madarai. A Hazai Madárvilág Megismerésének Vezérfüzet. 170 Eredeti szövegrajzzal és 9 Műmelléklettel. Irta Dr. Madarász Gyula. M. N. Múzeumi Igazgató-úr. Anhang: Die Vögel Ungarns auszugsweise in Deutscher Sprache. Budapest, 1899-1903. Ára 40 korona. 4to, pp. xxiv + 666, pll. ix, and 170 text figures.

²Parrakeets: being a practical Handbook to those Species kept in Captivity. Royal 8vo, to be completed in 6 parts, with text figures and colored plates. London: R. H. Porter. Price, 6s net per part. Part I, June, 1902, pp. 1-40, 4 pll.; Part II, August, 1902, pp. 41-80, 3 pll.; Part III, Dec., 1902, pp. 81-128, 3 pll.; Part IV, April, 1903, pp. 129-168, 3 pll.; Part V, pp. 169-216, 4 pll.